

Protecting Our Environment



THE DEQ SCIENTIST

If you'd like to apply your scientific education and/or experience to the environmental arena, you may want to consider a career as a scientist with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The scientist series provides a defined career path starting at the Scientist 1 entry level and progressing to the journey-level Scientist 3. While the majority of DEQ scientist positions are at the Scientist 3 level, career-advancement opportunities may be available at the Scientist 4 or Scientist 5 level. Positions within the scientist series include hydrogeologists, biologists, meteorologists, toxicologists, limnologists and entomologists.

SCIENTIST 1 - Pay Grade H (Salary Range \$12.96–\$21.64)

This is the entry-level professional position for individuals working in the scientific field. Incumbents apply their knowledge of scientific principles and practices to research, analyze and report scientific data within defined guidelines. In addition to permanent positions, this classification may serve as an internship or training opportunity for the Scientist 2. Typical duties may include:

- providing scientific research for designed studies or scientific application;
- evaluating materials for compliance to standards and specifications;
- preparing standard solutions for calibration and analyses;
- comparing data and historical records for trend verification; and
- developing reference files, comparison charts and graphs on laboratory data.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's degree in the sciences or a related field. Experience utilizing applications of scientific principles to perform specific tasks can substitute for one year of college when combined with specific educational requirements.

SCIENTIST 2 - Pay Grade K (Salary Range \$16.59–\$27.46)

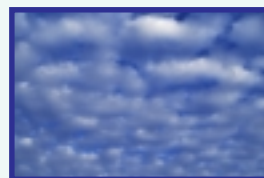
The Scientist 2 applies formal scientific training, advanced techniques and diversified knowledge of the scientific discipline to complete multiple activities for a major phase or component of a scientific project, study or application. This classification may serve as trainee level for the Scientist 3. Typical duties may include:

- assisting in research and analyses of scientific data and preparing reports;
- evaluating analyses of samples or data;
- interpreting test results and comparing them with determined standards and limits;
- assuring scientific analysis complies with federal and state regulations; and
- performing site inspections and field oversight.

DEQ is responsible for the management and protection of Idaho's environmental resources as set forth by the state's laws, regulations and policies. It administers delegated federal programs similar to state programs to avoid duplication and provide consolidated management.

DEQ assists Idaho's citizens in achieving their needs while protecting the state's environment for present and future uses.

DEQ protects the quality of the state's surface and ground-water resources through permitting, monitoring, and providing technical assistance. Areas of emphasis include TMDLs, nonpoint-source pollution, groundwater, source water assessment, drinking water and waste water.



DEQ also protects air quality in the state by issuing air quality permits; ensuring compliance through technical assistance;

monitoring; and working with local communities, industry, other agencies, and the EPA to develop and implement plans to improve air quality in non-attainment areas. Areas of emphasis include visibility, particulate matter monitoring and impacts of growth and transportation.

DEQ is responsible for monitoring and controlling the generation, treatment, storage and disposal of wastes in Idaho through technical assistance, permitting, corrective action, and inspecting waste facilities to ensure proper operation.

Areas of emphasis include Superfund sites, hazardous waste, solid wastes and remediation of contaminated sites.



MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's degree in the sciences or a related field AND at least two years' experience performing routine scientific duties/applying scientific training while completing a project or application such as performing routine investigations and scientific analyses and preparing basic reports and/or maps.

SCIENTIST 3 - Pay Grade L (Salary Range \$18.14–\$30.04)

The Scientist 3 is the journey-level position and comprises the majority of DEQ positions. Incumbents in this position are fully competent scientists who apply advanced knowledge of scientific principles, techniques and theories to independently plan, design and conduct scientific projects, studies or applications. Typical duties may include:

- planning and conducting scientific research and analyses;
- conducting scientific/technical evaluation of regulatory submittals;
- recommending remediation, rehabilitation or mitigation measures;
- reviewing environmental impact statements; and
- managing environmental investigation and remediation projects.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's degree in the physical or biological sciences or in a field related to the specialty area AND at least four years' experience in scientific assessments, investigations, remediation projects, environmental protection and pollution control; monitoring projects; and designing, reviewing or implementing scientific projects; OR four years' experience organizing and interpreting laboratory and field data; performing activities associated with pollution prevention or mitigation or environmental studies; and recommending and overseeing the completion of remedial actions.

SCIENTIST 4 - Pay Grade N

(Salary Range \$21.25–\$35.15)

The Scientist 4 position works with considerable autonomy to plan, design, develop and monitor/evaluate scientific projects, studies or applications and serves as a staff resource for technical and scientific issues. These positions are contributory in nature and may function as the technical expert on specialized projects or studies. Typical duties may include:

- performing peer review of scientific projects, studies or applications and making recommendations;
- developing technical scientific management guidelines; and
- representing the department on scientific management practices and other issues.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's degree in the sciences or a related field and at least six years' professional experience designing and implementing scientific applications, investigations, studies such as biological monitoring, corrective action plans, analysis and assessment.

SCIENTIST 5 - Pay Grade P

(Salary Range \$22.78–\$37.68)

The Scientist 5 applies a mastery of scientific applications and concepts to serve as the department's expert for a specific discipline. At this level, decisions made by incumbents have substantial impact on the State, surrounding states and the citizens of Idaho. Typical duties may include:

- providing final peer review of scientific evaluations, tests, reports, studies, recommendations and/or criteria;
- planning and implementing components of scientific programs;
- developing and monitoring research projects;
- developing and/or reviewing risk assessments and making recommendations; and
- developing understandable uncertainty analyses.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Master's degree in the sciences or a related field and at least 10 years' professional experience demonstrating the mastery of advanced scientific applications such as publications in professional scientific journals; and specialized experience in a scientific discipline.

SCIENTIST CLASSIFICATION

For application materials, visit:

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EOE/AA

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